Spread of Cholera In Delhi

2238. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cholera deaths in the capital since July, 1998;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check the spreading of the disease; and

(c) the reasons of spreading of this disease in the national capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) As per information furnished by Municipal corporation of Delhi (MCD) the number of deaths due to Cholera since July 1999 is 8.

(b) the steps taken by MCD are as under:

1. Disease surveillance.
2. Distribution of free Chlorine tablets.
3. Distribution of free ORS packets.
4. Ban on exposed food
5. Health education with the help of hand-bills, posters, television and cinema slides.
6. Checking of water trollys (W.T) and water at distribution end.

(c) The reasons for cholera cases in certain ureas are as under:

1. Non-availability of potable water
2. Contamination of water.
3. Poor sanitary conditions.
4. Poor personal hygiene.
5. Unsafe-disposal of human excreta

Shortage of donated Blood

2239. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is very short of blood donation;

(b) whether we need to import blood, costing thousands of crores, as reported in The Hindu of 11th May, 1998; and

(c) what steps Government propose to remedy this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) Though there is occasional and seasonal shortage of blood in some hospitals and Blood Banks in the country, overall there is, however, no reported serious shortage. There is no need to import blood. The state Governments and U.T. Administration have been asked to take suitable action to overcome the shortage of blood by Voluntary Blood donation. For generating enough blood through Voluntary Blood Donation Programmes, the Government of India have taken a number of steps such as:

(1) campaign has been launched through Television by specially developed TV spots, telecast through Doordarshan at suitable intervals during Prime Time, for motivating people to donate blood voluntarily.

(2) Messages o.\ voluntary blood donation are broadcast through Times FM channel in one of their music programmes.

(3) NACO with the help of the Central Health Education Bureau have developed prototype IEC material for one to one ' communication on voluntary blood donation programme in the form of folders, posters and the same have been given to various States and U.T.s for use and reproduction in the vernacular languages.

(4) the National Council of Science and Technology Communication (Department of Science and Technology, Government of India) have initiated a pilot